

COLL. CAL

Assoc.

Phil. Assoc. in Charity

WQ
28
AP4
P5L9

APPEAL

FOR THE

Supply of a Greater Number

OF

INTELLIGENT WOMEN,

TO BECOME TRAINED AS

NURSES FOR THE SICK.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRINTED AT 22 SOUTH THIRD STREET,
Over Drexel's Bank.
1855.

JUN 19 1963

THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON
FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT
TO THE PRESENT TIME
BY NATHANIEL BENTLEY

VOLUME II
CONTAINING THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON
FROM THE YEAR 1630
TO THE YEAR 1700
BY NATHANIEL BENTLEY

THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON
FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT
TO THE PRESENT TIME
BY NATHANIEL BENTLEY
VOLUME II
CONTAINING THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON
FROM THE YEAR 1630
TO THE YEAR 1700
BY NATHANIEL BENTLEY

Under the instructions and general direction of the same gentleman, a number of nurses have been trained, who, with the co-operation, and under the personal supervision of the lady visitors of the Nurse Society, have attended upon nearly 1,000 poor mothers and their infants in the bosoms of their own destitute families, whose condition, without such timely and appropriate assistance, would have been certainly miserable, and often hazardous in the extreme.

This Obstetric Training Association has been abundantly convinced of its usefulness in the supply of kind and efficient medical aid by the physicians who voluntarily submit to the necessary preliminary discipline, and bestow their aid gratuitously to the patients under its care.

It is also convinced of the valuable and often indispensable services of those females who subject themselves to the instructions and training decreed by the Society having the management of the concern, and act as nurses to poor women and their families—the primary objects of the care of the co-operative institutions above named.

It is satisfied that society at large is already deriving much benefit from the increased qualifications of physicians and nurses, who have received the special training and practical experience under the regulations of the establishment which selects the agents and directs the supply.

Already has a large number of the physicians, who have received the certificates of the approbation of the Lying-in Charity and Nurse Society, entered successfully upon their courses of responsibility and usefulness in the various neighborhoods in which they have settled. Many of the nurses, who have passed through the severe probation of training and exercise under the medical and visitorial supervision of the appropriate department of the institution, and received testimonials of their satisfaction, are now in high demand for service in the chambers of the more affluent of our fellow-citizens.

The Philadelphia Lying-in Charity and Nurse Society, in the course of the several years it has been occupied in its vocation, has become convinced that it holds a position

of high moral responsibility, not only in selecting and preparing its aids for doing medical and nursing service to the poor, but also as a necessary consequence—introducing these experienced attendants to the service of the rich.

From the commencement of his engagement in this momentous enterprise of instructing and training, and assigning the care of cases to the medical officers of the institution, the principal physician has required ample certificates of the morality and devotion of the volunteers to this arduous service, from responsible sources, and the committee of the Nurse Society has not only demanded like testimonials in favor of candidates for instruction in duty for the society, but have held personal conferences with the candidates themselves, before they were admitted even on probation into the Nurse's Home.

The Lying-in Charity and Nurse Society urgently appeal to the pious and intelligent of their fellow-citizens, everywhere, to look with interest to this growing concern, and ask themselves what is their individual duty towards aiding in the extension and accomplishment of this great work, still in its apparently initial stages, but no longer a matter of experiment.

No doubt anywhere exists that society requires for the safety and comfort of the sick, well-instructed, experienced physicians, and well-trained and prudent nurses.

The Association, banded together by unanimous conviction of its numerous members, that the interests of humanity required their several services, have become settled in their belief—that not only do the poor stand in need of the care of such medical and nursing aids as are governed by the highest sentiments of religion and morality, as well as skill and fidelity, but that they who are more fortunate in the possession of this world's goods have a right to expect, and

even to know, that those whom they intend to remunerate for professional and nursing service, shall possess commensurate qualifications.

Under a solemn sense of duty that the community should be informed correctly and briefly respecting the matter already accomplished, and the object yet to be attained, the Association earnestly invokes the sympathy and aid of all reflecting members of society whom this address may reach, in presenting this subject for the consideration of worthy, intelligent women, how far it may be a matter of duty or interest for them to offer themselves to the service of this Institution as nurses.

It appeals to the pious of all denominations for their prayers for the prosperity and aid in the wide extension of this enterprise.

It invokes the ministers and influential lay-members of the numerous Christian congregations, to look abroad throughout the several ramifications of their charges, for women possessing the elements of character, which, if developed by proper training and exercise, would enable them greatly to increase not only their usefulness to the suffering and enfeebled, but also presently or prospectively, their own pecuniary emoluments.

For well educated nurses, which the Institution has been supposed capable of supplying on demand, there have been 1656 applications by citizens, while from the limited number of those who had been satisfactorily educated by the Society, only 670 have been furnished to these anxious enquirers. We regard this as proving conclusively, that a wide field of usefulness, and we would trust of better remuneration, is open for an extensive class of worthy women, (who are at present laboring in confined places and under very restricted circumstances,) if they would be willing to secure

for themselves the approbation and recommendation of this Institution, by the satisfactory performance of their initial services, under its direction.

The hope is entertained, that with the continued and somewhat increased liberality of the charitable and wealthy, the Society will have the means of making the expenses of the pupil nurses very light, as well as to afford them fair remuneration while engaged in its service.

The Society has for several years furnished good accommodations to the pupil nurses at the Home for \$1,25 per week while in the service of the Institution, and allowed them \$2,50 per week for each patient nursed under its direction. No board is charged to the nurse while she is out on duty at the patient's house. She is expected to attend six such patients an average of two weeks each. This done, she is allowed to do an equal amount of service in families who can pay her not more than three dollars per week. Upon the completion of this amount of duty to these two classes of patients, requiring in all one hundred and sixty-eight days and nights of nursery service, to the satisfaction of the Lady Visitors and Physicians, or to the Executive Committee of the Institution, each candidate is entitled to a certificate of honorable discharge from the services of the Lying-in Charity and Nurse Society, signed by its proper officers, upon the reception of which, she is allowed to register her engagements in the Nurse's Home; and if she prefers to remain a boarder there, is charged about two dollars and a quarter per week board, while at leisure, and only twenty-five cents per week while actually nursing on her own account, for the reservation of her bed and other privileges of the Home.

The amount usually charged by the Nurses trained by the Society and entitled to its certificate, varies from four

to six dollars per week, according to the circumstances of the families in which they are employed, and the amount and kind of service to be performed.

It is to be understood both by nurses themselves and by the applicants for aid, that the business of the graduates in the Institution, is not restricted to what is usually meant by *monthly nursing*, but that it includes duty to surgical, medical, as well as obstetrical cases.

For admission to the Institution, females in good health, capable of reading and writing readily, possessed of good intelligence, less than 40 years of age, free as possible from the entangling cares of a young and dependent family, may be referred, with proper testimonials, to the Matron of the Nurses' Home, 337 Race Street, who will put the applicants and their references in communication with the proper committee.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Institution.

JOSEPH WARRINGTON.

HANNAH MILLER.

ANN DAVIS.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 1st, 1854.